THE
VVriting School-Master:
OR,
The Anatomy of Fair WRITING.

Wherein is exactly expreſſed each ſeveral Character; Together
With other Rules and Documents coincident to the
Art of Fair and Speedy WRITING.

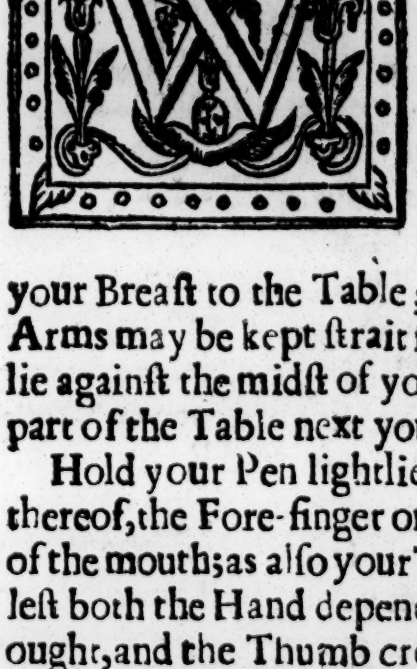
By J. JOHNSON, Maſter in VVRITING.

Vivit poſt Funera Virtus.

Prov. *Teach a Child in the way he ſhould go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Apply thine heart to Inſtruction, and thine ears to the words of Knowledge, that it may be well with thee in thy latter end.*

LONDON, Printed by *S. Griffin* for *John Overton*, and ſold by him at his Houſe, at the Sign of the *White-Horſe* in *Little Brittain*, next the Gate. 1667. *Where you may have two famous* Maps *of the City of* London, *Before, and Since the Fire.*

DIRECTIONS.



Hat meaſure of knowledg and practice it hath pleaſed God to lend me upon the accompt of Improvement, I have in the diſcharge of my Dutie, extended to the benefit of all whom it may concern, as well as to mine own Intereſt alone: chieflie to thoſe who dwell in remote places, who want the help of Teachers; yea, and for the beneſi of ſuch Teachers alſo, as be anie wiſe defective in Abilities.

Hold your Head ſo ſtrait up and evenlie, as that the Book or Paper whereon you write, may be right before your Face; and your Bodie ſo orderlie, as that you lean not your Breaſt to the Table; as alſo your Elbows ſo cloſe to your ſides, as that your Arms may be kept ſtrait forth; and the middle part of your Book or Paper ſo directlie againſt the midſt of your Bodie, and ſo equallie near at both ends, to that ſide or part of the Table next you, as the ſtrait holding forth of your Arms will permit.

Hold your Pen lightlie on the point of your Thumb, almoſt touching the Nail thereof, the Fore-finger on the top, and the Middle-finger longeſt, at the upper part of the mouth; as alſo your Thumb, and all your Fingers extended to their full length; leſt both the Hand depend not on the points of the third and fourth Fingers, as it ought, and the Thumb crook or bow in the midſt, the reſt of the Fingers be ſubject to the like, and hinder the well-doing of the work. Likewiſe, take Ink with the mouth of the Pen downwards, and ſhake the Pen over the Ink horn every time, leſt you either make an uncleanlie Letter, or blot the Paper, or both.

Theſe things being thus carefullie done, then draw two Rules (otherwiſe called double Rule) and write the bodies of all Letters between thoſe two Rules, and both

the heads of all that have heads over the high Rule, and the feet of all that have feet under the low Rule, as far as the bodies are in length from the high Rule to the low, according to the measure used in Printing; which though it be not the tenth part so old as Writing, yet it hath come to a far greater perfection, according to the Rules of Art grounded upon Reason.

Then for your better apprehending both of verbal Instruction, and literal Demonstration, it will be needful for you to understand those terms of Art which distinguish the divers passages of the Pen in Writing, which be Twelve in Number, according to the varietie of the Letters, strait down, and strait up; strait forwards, and strait backwards; sloping up to the right hand, and sloping down to the left hand; sloping up to the left hand, and sloping down to the right hand; compassing down to the right hand, and compassing down to the left hand; compassing up to the left hand, and compassing up to the right hand.

Having thus far proceeded, it is next to be considered, That there must be equal distance alwaies kept between Letters in Words, between Words and Words, and between Lines and Lines, whiles the generalitie of the Writing continueth in an equal proportion, which being carefullie observed, it will be fit time for you to begin, and form disjoined Letters severallie, upon the aforementioned Rules, until you can write them skilfullie, if your Capacitie cannot reach the writing of them without Rule jointlie; and according as you come short in framing of them according to your Copie, and have not a Teacher to instruct you, it will be verie requisite for you to examine and compare them with your pattern as you proceed, and then at your writing of them thenceforth, to avoid all such Errors as escaped in your first endeavors.

Whether you be a new Beginner, or have made some progress before, you are to write verie slowlie, until you can write skilfullie, and then you may endeavour by degrees to such speed thereafter, as you may still keep both the same form and sufficiencie

ficiencie of Letter; but having attained ſome meaſure of perfection, when upon anie occaſion you are driven to ſuch haſte of buſineſſes, as that you muſt needs write faſt, then you may ſerve your preſent need with all convenient expedition, and practiſe again with more care and deliberation, when you can ſpare more time; leſt otherwiſe upon neglecting that needful task, you get ſuch a habit of writing too ſpeedilie, as you will quite forget to write more exactlie.

For, Writing carefullie and ſlowlie, is to be uſed in all kind of Affairs, which requireth to be written perfectlie, though it be onlie in the ſame form of Letter, which you write in other things ſpeedilie; and yet in being ſo written, it will be better in regard of its ſpeed, than a ſet form of Writing: ſo you will in ſhort time know by your own experience, that both thoſe ways of writing one form of Letter, are far more fit in their reſpective places, than to be ſo addicted to anie one way of doing thereof, as that the other way ſhould not be alſo uſed when there is need.

And they may be ſo much the eaſier written, either ſlowlie or ſpeedilie, in that they differ not in Letter, being one and the ſame, but onlie in length or ſhortneſs of time, whiles they are in doing, chiefllie when the Letters are ſo framed, that anie word without exception (according to my cuſtom) may be written, before the removing of the Pen: Whereas the uſual ſet form of Writing is much ſlower to be done, than the ſloweſt way of this form, becauſe it is of ſuch a ſlow different Character, as requireth the Pen to be taken off the Paper, almoſt in framing of everie Letter. Therefore, if the changing of ſuch a ſlow ſet form into another, which in all theſe reſpects is better, both becauſe it is as good a Letter, and much ſpeedier and readier, is ſo good a Noveltie, that in ſuch a neceſſarie reſpect, it ſurpaſſeth that which is of Antiquitie.

Now concerning the neceſſaries belonging to Writing; chooſe the cleareſt ſecond, hardeſt third, and greateſt firſt of a Gooſe-wing; which when you make, firſt ſcrape and rub, then cut off about an Inch long from the Nib of the Quill, ſlit it up quicklie,

lie, that it may write cleanlie, and not too far, leſt too much thereof be ſpent idelie: Then cut off ſo much of the point verie carefullie, as there may remain ſufficient length of the Slit, for the ſize of the Letter, which you intend to write, and make the upper part or mouth, to begin at the upper end of the ſlit, of ſuch meaſure higher than the point, as that neither too much length ſhould make it weak, or not give Ink, nor too much ſhortneſs cauſe it to blot: and it is requiſite for the greater ſtrength, that the mouth exceed not twice the length of the point: So much by literal inſtruction for the Pen.

And if you deſire to make Ink for your own uſe, and to pleaſure others, take 12 Ounces of Nut Galls broken ſmall, and put into a Quart of ſtale Beer, White-wine, or the half thereof Vineger; and when it hath been ſtirred about twice a day the ſpace of a Week at leaſt, ſtrain out the Liquor from the Galls, and put 9 Ounces of Copras therein, 6 Ounces of Gum-Arabick broken ſmall, 3 Ounces of White Sugar, and 2 Ounces of Roch-allum: Among the Galls, you may put ſullie as much Liquor, and but the half of the Ingredients you did before: and if within a Month thereafter, it be as good as the former, you may uſe it in the ſame manner, otherwiſe a little more ſtuff and longer ſtanding, will make it to your deſire: But if you will have it readie in haſte, boyle it in an earthen Veſſel half an hour on a ſlow Fire, that you may have the whole ſubſtance of the Galls by that means ſo much the ſooner; for all the reſt melts in the Liquor; then you may throw out the husks of the Galls, and nothing will remain but clear Ink.

Thus at the requeſt of a worthie Friend, I have endeavoured to comprehend in theſe few pages, the ſubſtance of thoſe two printed Sheets which are uſuallie in Copie-Books, intitu'ed, THE WRITING SCHOOLMASTER, whereof ſome particulars are contrarie to mine own practice, to wit, The teaching of disjoined Letters, and writing on ruled Lines; others I have added, which are diſagreeable to the common practice: But (I hope) upon good grounds of Reaſon, agreeable to

mine

mine own experience, namelie, the limiting of heads and feet of written Letters, according to the length of printed Letters of the like size; and have not onlie rectified the Confusednes both of matter and order in those printed Sheets, and intermixed both necessarie Rules, and pertinent words, where there was need: but likewise, instead both of some envious Discourses against other Teachers, and other frivolous in high phrases (used by some) above the Capacitie of Learners, have added in verie calie terms divers needful Directions for the use of Learners, over and above what was inserted in the printed Sheets. All which, in order to the improvement of mine own Talent, I wish may be profitable unto all who use the same for their need, hoping to publish manie better things both of this, and other kinds, to the Glorie of God.

A particular Catalogue of Copper-Plates, Printed by and for John Overton, *at the* White Horse *in* Little Brittain, *London.* 1667.

1. A New Map of the World. 2. Excellent Maps of the City of *London*, before and since the Fire, in Prospect and Ground-plot. 3. A Map of *England.* 4. *Scotland.* 5. *Ireland.* 6. *France*, in single sheets, large paper. 7. Great *Brittain* and *Ireland* in four large sheets, with the Isles adjacent unto them; also the Battels fought in each Kingdom, expressed by Tents. 8. *Kent* in two sheets, with the High-ways from town to town, &c. not done before, &c. 2. *Essex.* 3. *Surrey.* 4. *Warwickshire.* 5. *Hartfordshire*, not any the like Map extant. 6. *Suffolk.* 7. *Norfolk.* 8. *Northamptonshire.* 9. *Staffordshire.* 10. *Leicestershire* and *Rutland.* 11. *Worcestershire.* 12. *Cheshire.* 13. *Lancashire.* 14. *Barkshire.* 15. *Somersetshire*, with the scales of each Map, and the Distinctions of each Hundred, *&c.* 16. A new Map of *Virginia*, *Mary-Land*, &c. 17. The Arms, Brests, Supporters and Motto's of all the several Companies and Corporations of the famous City of *London*, as they now

now bear them described, by the Letters of their proper Clours, with the Arms of all the other Cities in the Nation. A Collection of sundry Signs and Badges, for Inns, Taverns, or Victualling-houses, to distinguish each Room by its name: in Colors, and otherways.

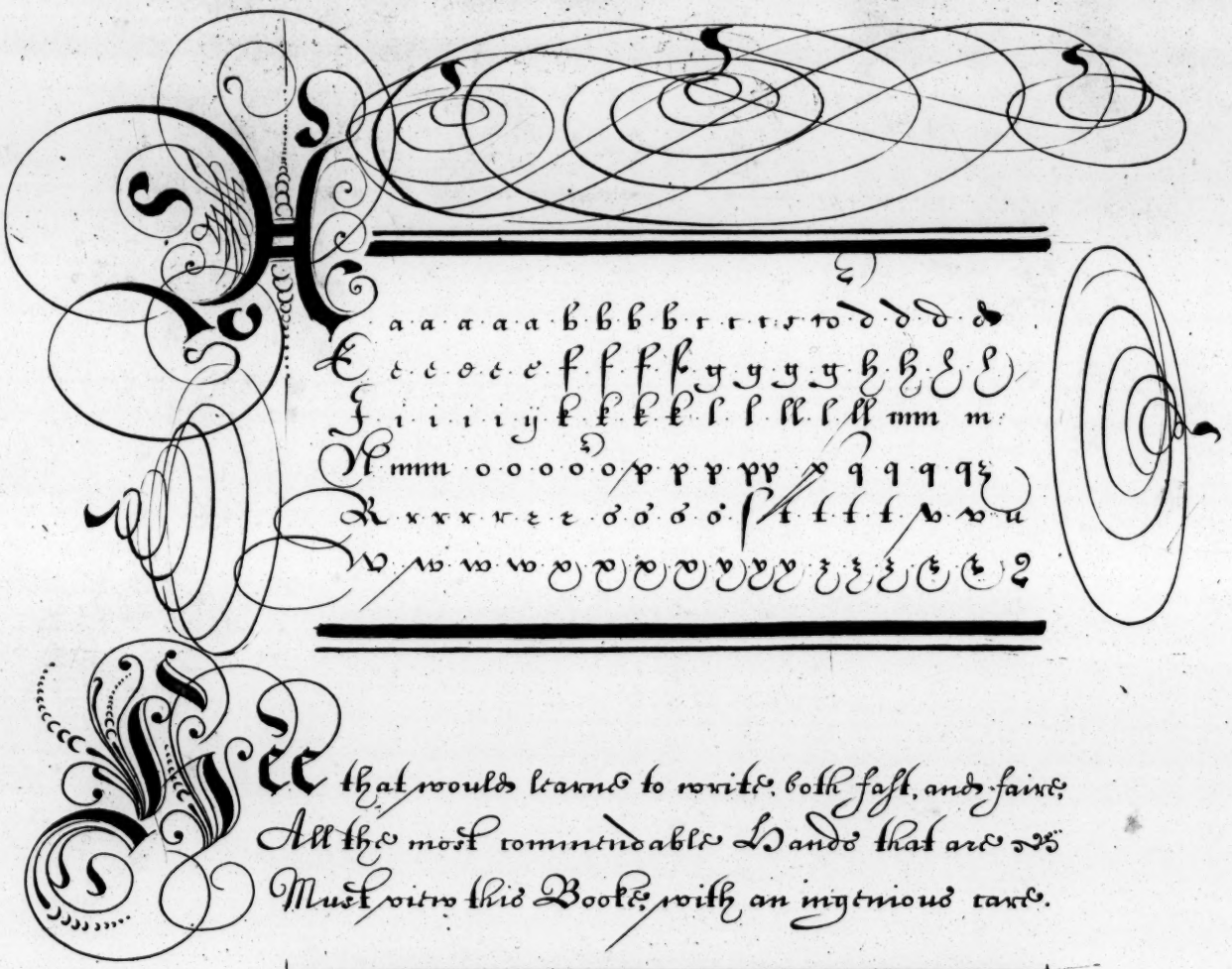
Large Sheets of Effigies and Stories in Colours and otherways.

1. *Orpheus* playing to the Beasts. 2. The 4 Seasons of the year. 3. All the Kings of *England*, from *William* the Conqueror, to King *Charles*, in Heads. 4. X Commandments in 2 Tables. 5. Death his Anatomy, with the memory of the Righteous, and oblivion of the wicked, in sentences of Scripture. 6. The River of *Tyne* from the Sea to *Newcastle*, with the Soundings, places of Lading of Sea *Callus* and the *minus*, &c. 7. The Book of Flowers, Fruits, Beasts, Birds and Flyes, exactly drawn, Printed and sold by *John Overton*. [The Five Senses. 4 Elements. 7 Liberal Arts. *P. Lombards* 4 parts of the World. 4 Winds. 4 Complexions. 4 Times of the day. 3 Graces. 9 Modern Worthies. 4 Vertues.] 8. Large pieces, being rare Knots of Mr. *E. Cocker*, Master in Writing. 9. Originals and Copies of Sir *Anth. Vandikes* 4 of many sorts. 10. A rare Book of Folding, by *Edward Pierce*, for Painters, Carvers, Gentlemen, &c.

These are Copy-Books.

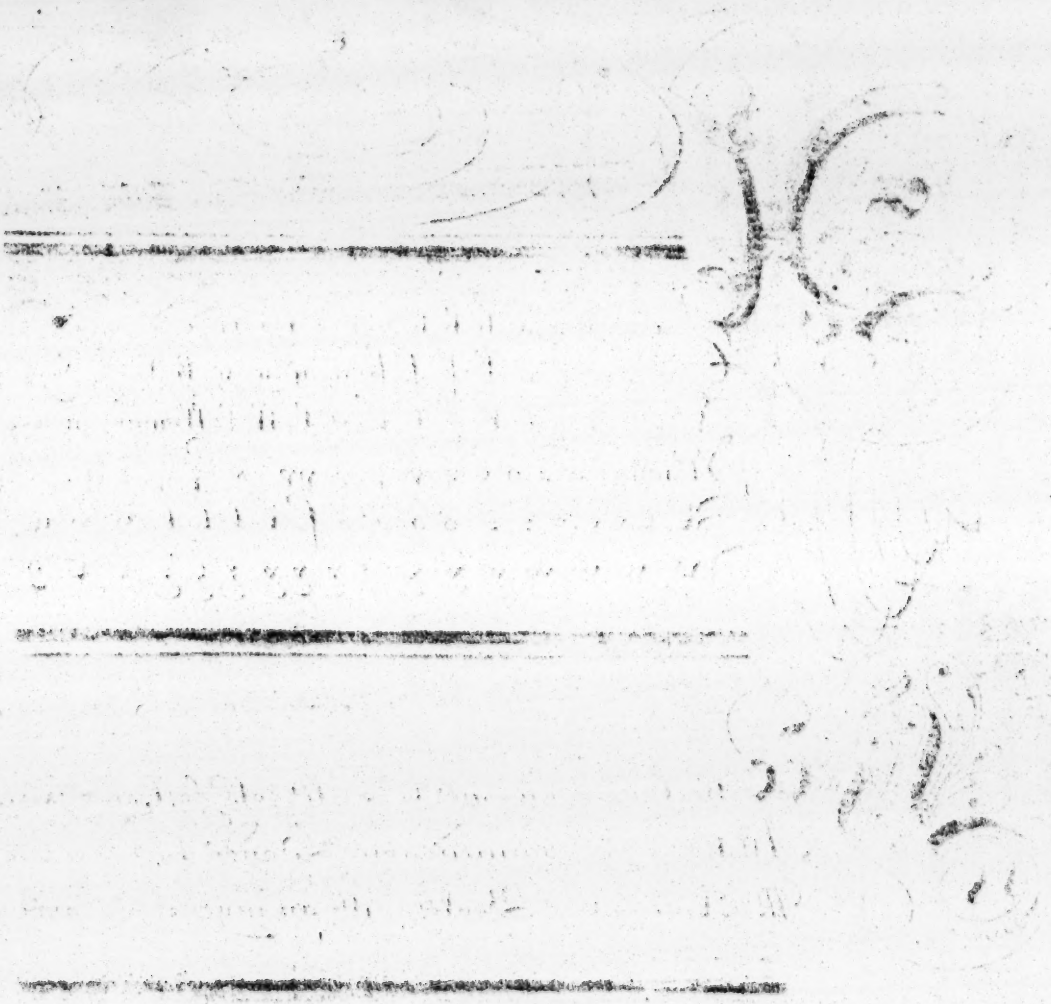
The *Writing Schoolmaster*, or the Anatomy of Fair Writing, wherein is expressed each several Character, together with other Rules coincident to the Art of fair and speedy VVriting, by *John Davies* of *Hereford*. 2. A Copy-Book containing variety of Examples of all the most curious Hands written, with the Breaks of each Letter, with the 3 usual and most necessary hands of our Nation, by *Martin Billingsley* Master in VVriting. 3. *Billingsley* in small. 4. The *Penmans Recreation*, containing Examples of fair and speedy VVriting, of excellent use for all such as aim at perfection therein, by *James Hodar*. 5. A Copy-Book of the usual Hands written in *England*, by Mr. *Johnson*. 6. *Arts Glory*, or the *Penmans Treasury*, containing various Examples of *Secretary*, *Text*, *Roman* and *Italian* Hands, adorned with curious Knots and Flourishes; also a Receipt for Ink, and to write in Gold, by *Edward Cocker*. 7. The *Pens Treasury*, containing several Directions very useful, both for the Art of writing of true *English*, with choise experiments for such as practise Pen or Pensil, by *J. Fisher*. 8. A Copy-Book containing plain and easie directions to Fair VVriting, by *Lewis Hughs*. 9. A Copy-Book, or Fair VVriting of several Hands used, Published by *P. S.* 10. A Copy-Book of the usual Hands written, with easie Rules, by which one may learn to write of himself.

The posture of the Musket and Pike, useful for the Practitioners thereof, as also for Officers.



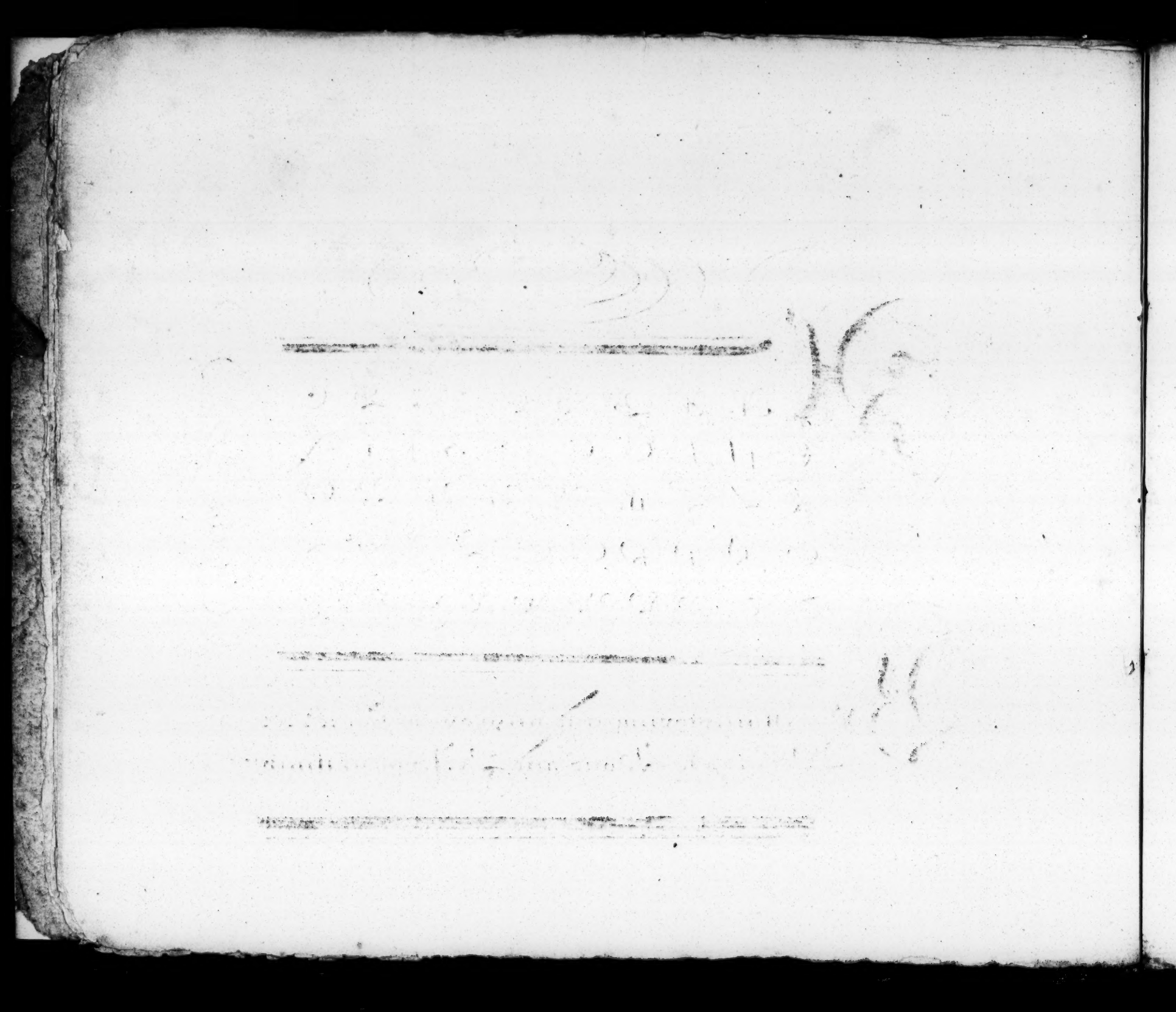
a a a a a b b b b r r r r to d d d d
e e e e e f f f f f y y y y h h l l
i i i i i y k k k k l l ll l ll mm m
n mm o o o o o p p p pp q q q q q
r x x x x r z z o o o o s t t t t v v u
w w w w w a a a a a z z z z z a w w

We that would learne to write both fast, and faire;
All the most commendable Hands that are
Must write this Booke, with an mysticous care.



A A B B C C D D E
E F F G G H H I I K
K L L M M N N O O
P P Q Q R S S T T
U U V W W X Y Z &

By well employing and improving Time we
We may to Honor, and Preferment climbe.



Doe thy best to imitate the best Examples,
knowing, wee should not doe what should
not be imitated, nor imitate w^t should not be done.

A a b r d d e e o o f g g ꝯ i k l m n o p p q r ſ ſ t v u w o y y y z &

After my hertie commendations. Forasmuch as I am verie credibly geven to vnderstand by the relation of one loving neighbour and friend Martine Werbingstone of Nampton in the countie of Northampton, that was sometime one dwelling-place; that you are purposed to alienate your purchase in Brownington towne-mappeno; & if you bee, then of your acquaintance I beseech you that I maie have the same for my money giving as any other will for it

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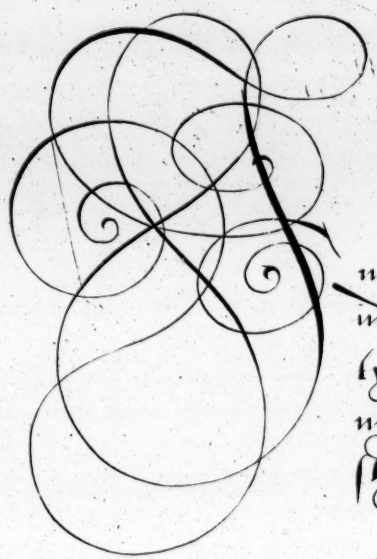
Many, if they may not doe so well, as they would, they will not doe so well as they may: but be thou wise.

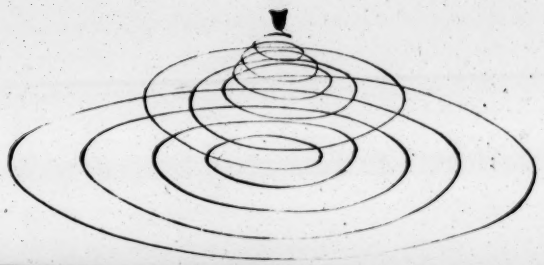


Innumerable are the annoiaunces, incommodities, wraughtes,
indammagementes, and incumbrances which ducrie moment of
tyme accompanie this momentanie vaile of transitorie and
momentanie vanitie. Praier is the ordinarie meane to
shunne and avoide theze grievous incommodities & evilles &c

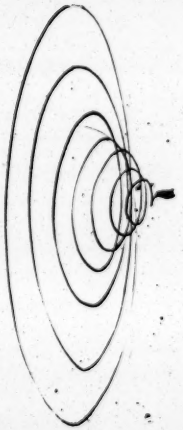
commend such as are ingenious to immitate, though not so cunning as to invent: but this know, and I have oftentimes found it by experience, that such as have attained to some perfection, by immitation, have many times been able for the performance of a compleat and commendable invention. J. J.

A.a. B.b. C.c. D.d. E.e. F.f. G.g. H.h. I.i. K.k. L.l. all M.m. N.n. O.o. P.p. Q.q. R.r. S.s. T.t. V.v. W.w. X.x. Y.y. Z.z.

a. b. c. d. e. ee. f. ff.
g. g. h. i. k. k. l. ll.
m. n. o. oo. p. q. r. z. 6.
ſ. t. u. v. w. v. y. 3. &
Make much of time, learne to excell
In Wisdome, and in doing well.

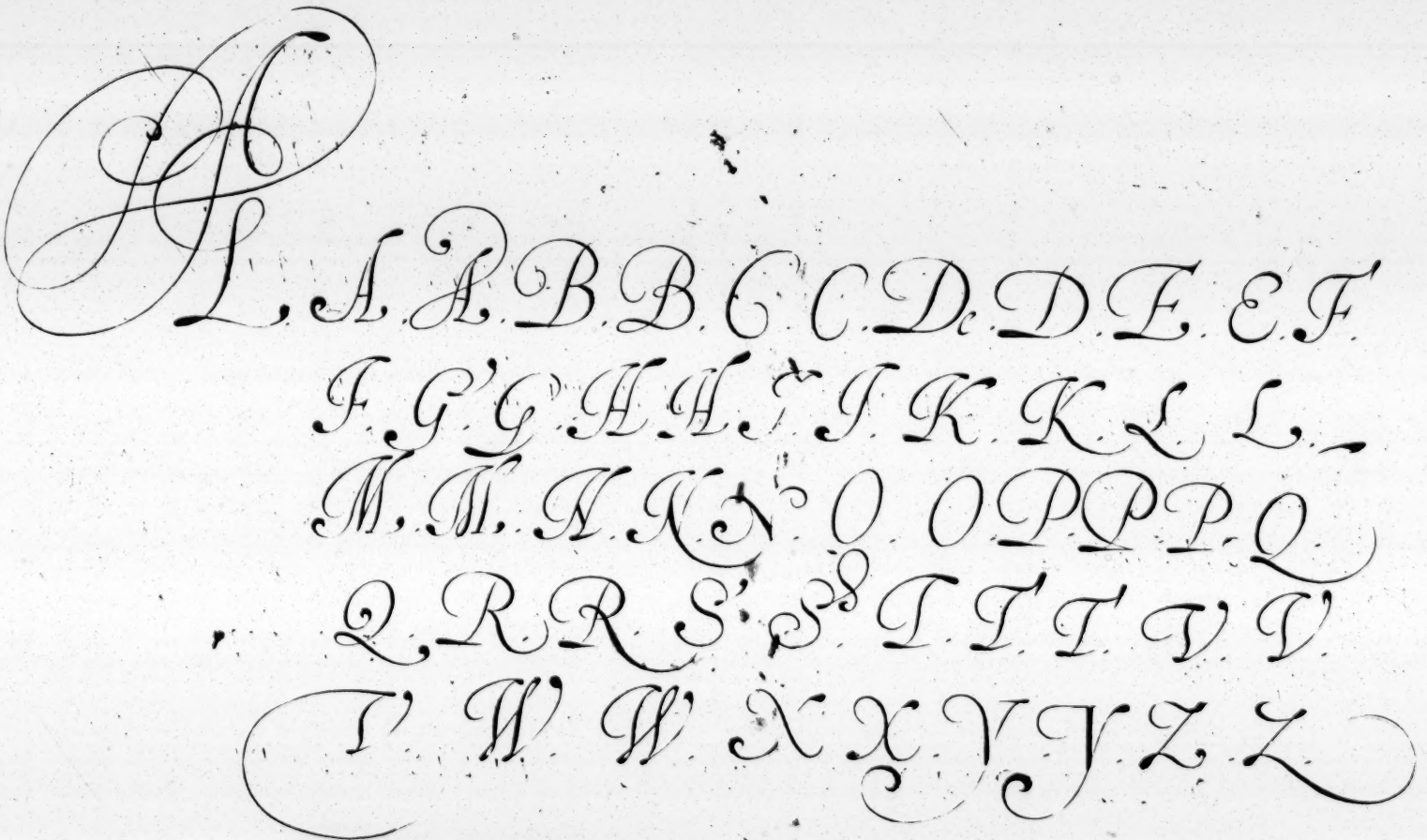


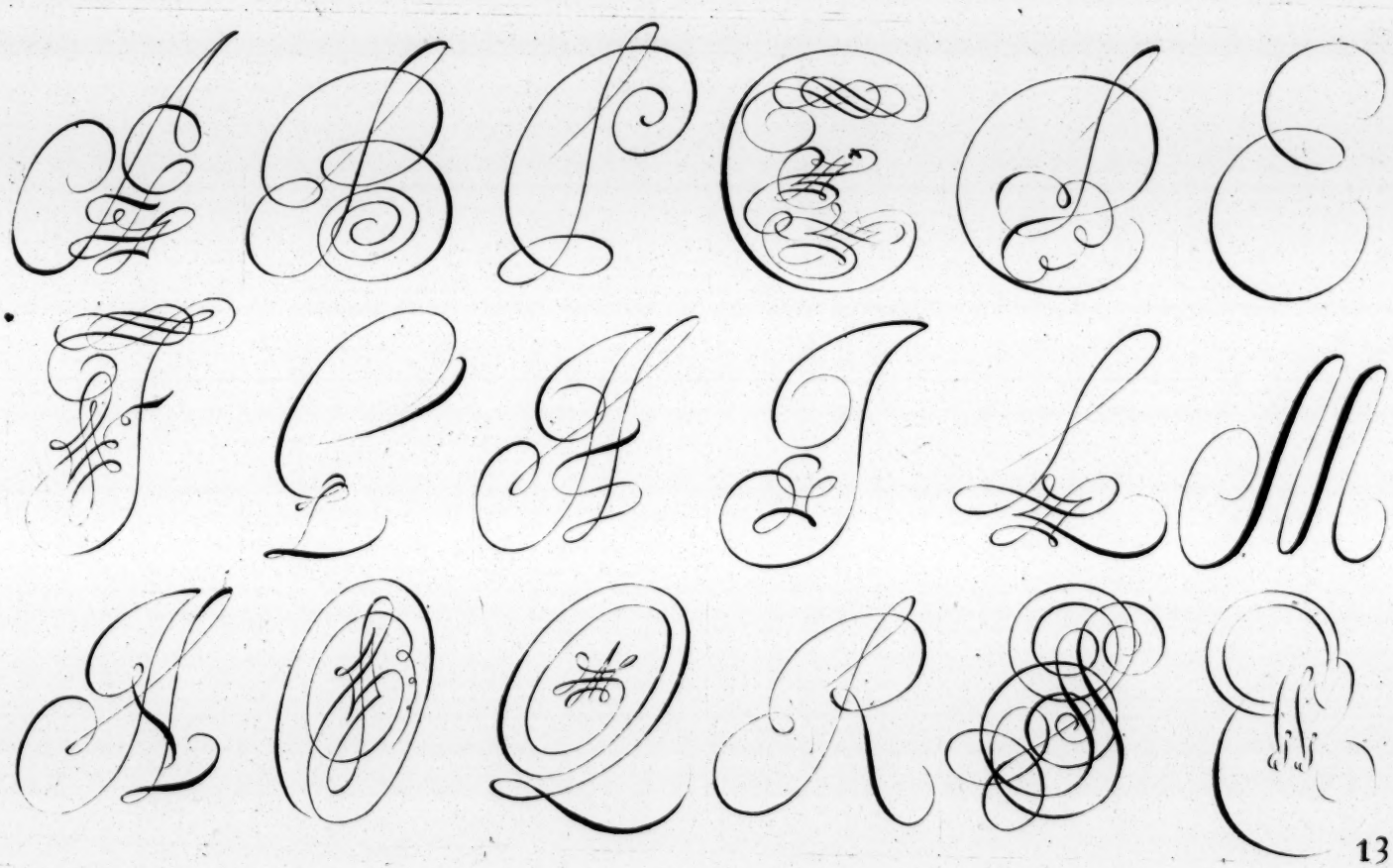
Legem pone mihi domine
viam iustificationum tu-
arum: et exquiram eam
semper. Da mihi intellec-
tum et scrutabor legem

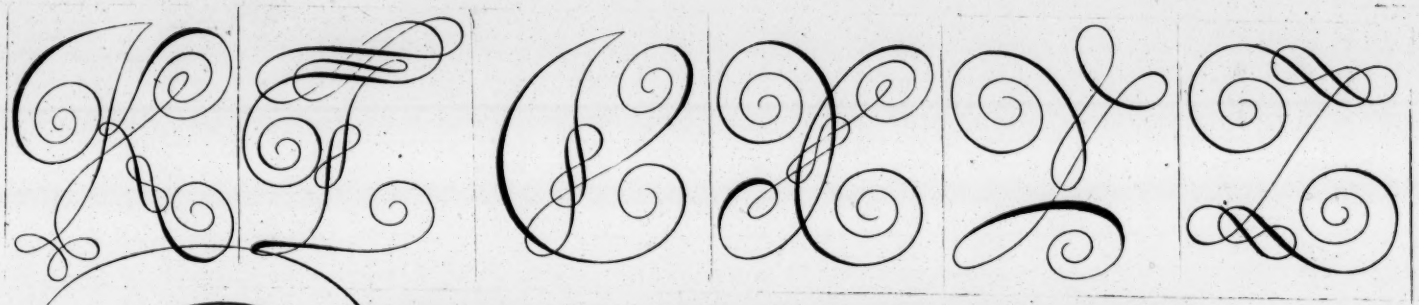


As Virtue is its own Reward, and Fame
So Vice is its own Punishment, and shame.

Ex variis sumendum est optimum momentis
minimus maxime temporum inclinationes sint
In duobus malis fugiendum maius leuius est.
eligendum In reliquis studijs o multis eligo
homines commodissimum quodquo solebant.







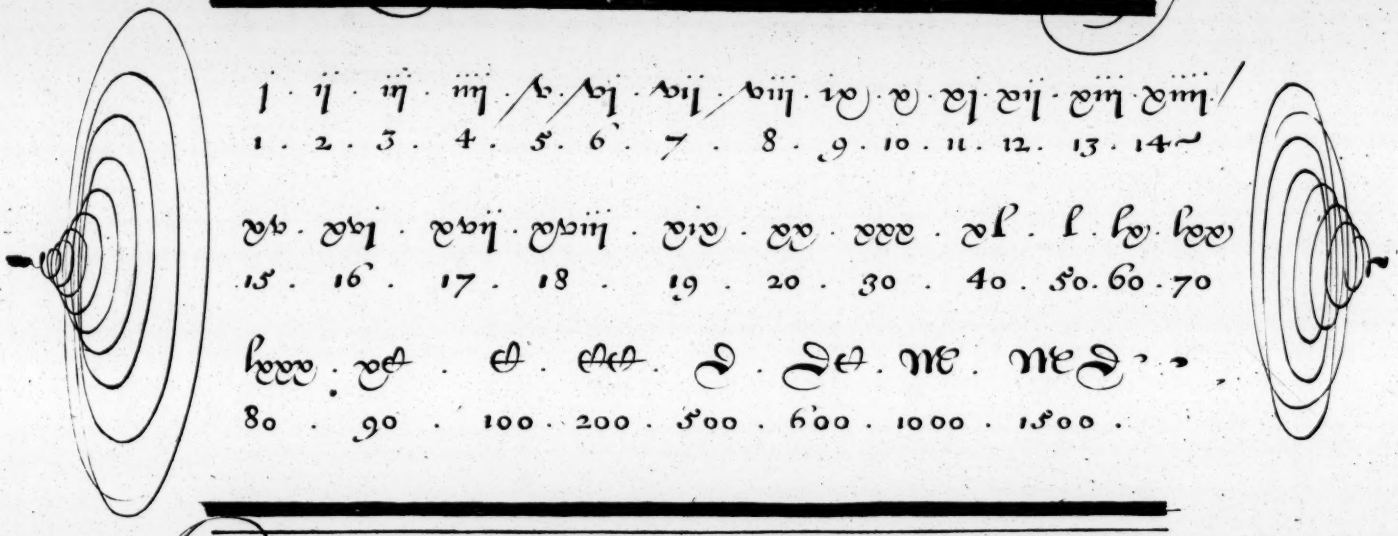
S A a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r s ß t u v w x y z &

Sapientia est rerum diuinarum et humanarum scientia cognitioque, quæ cuiusque rei causa sit: ex quo efficitur, ut diuina imitetur, humana omnia inferiora uirtute ducat. Habet omnium bonarum artium est sapientia: a cuius amore, Græco uerbo Philosophia nomen inuenit qua nihil a Dijs immortalibus uberius nihil florentius hominum generi datum est.

Quando præstitimus quod cuenit, feramus. Est etiam in nobis, vt & aduersa quasi perpetua obliuione obruamus, & secunda iucunde ac suauiter meminerimus. Vt secunda moderate tulimus, sic non solum aduersam sed funditus euersam fortunam patienter ferre debemus. Nihil est.

Heaven is the admired instrument of the Omnipotent,
By the influence whereof he rules, and governs the
great mass of this transitory, and corruptible World.

A B C D E F G H I K L M
N O P Q R S T V W X Y Z

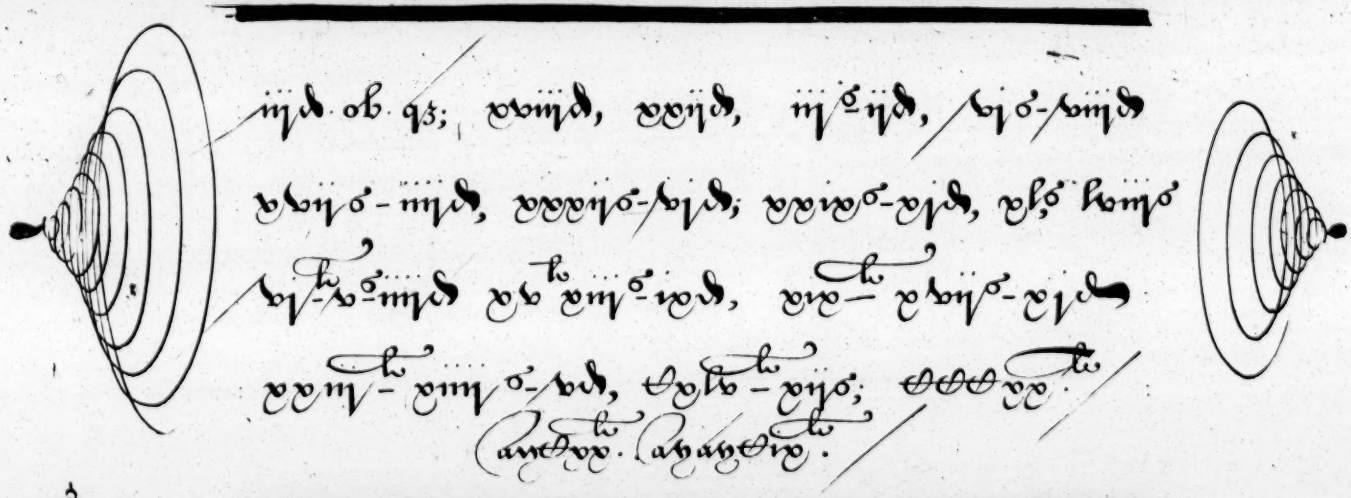


A . a . b . c . d . d . e . ee . f . g . f . g . i . j . y . k . n . l . ll . m . n . o . p . q . r . s . t . v . u . w . x . y . z . &

I am resolvd to write faire, and to that end I'le have a care.

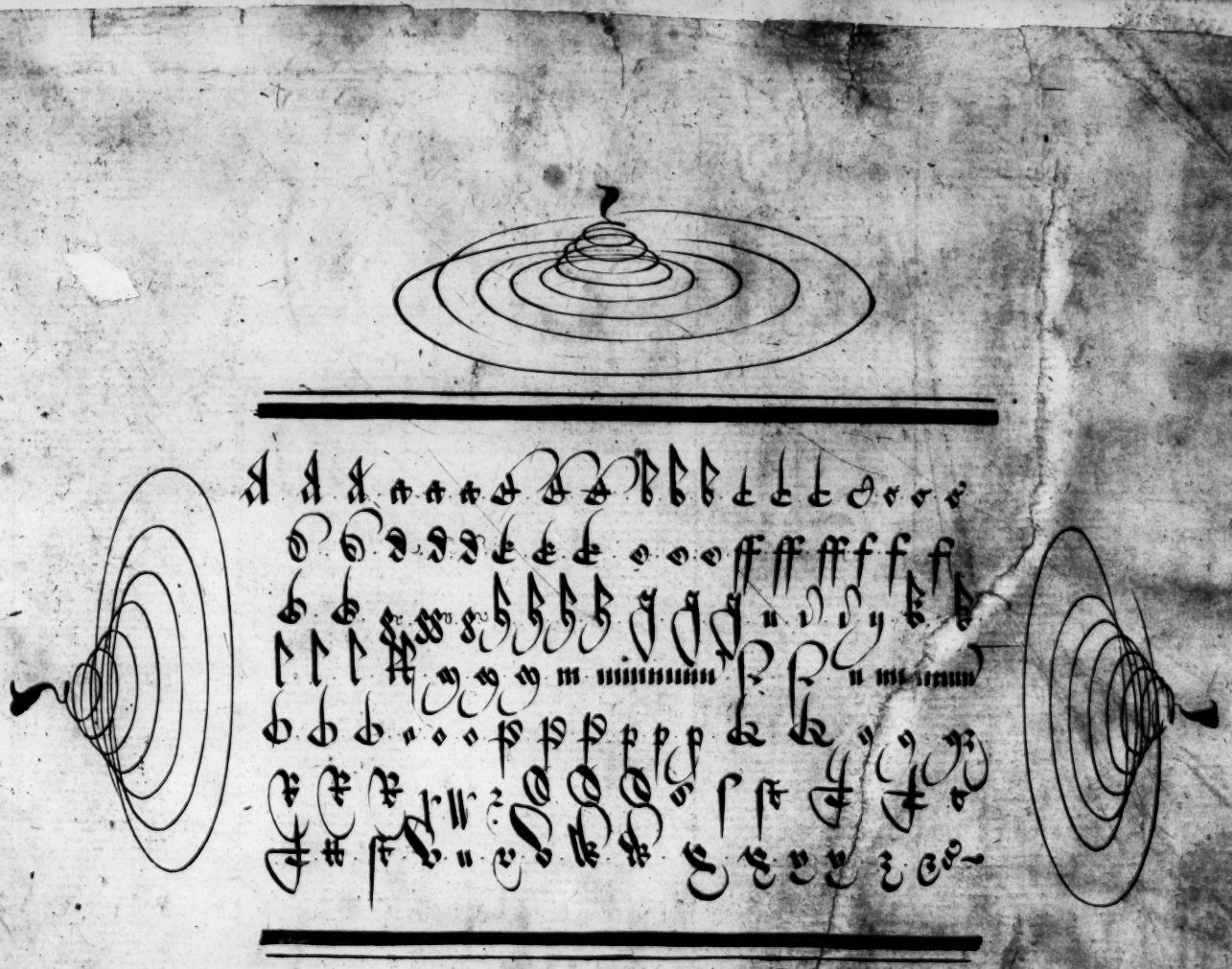
A a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q r ſ s t u v w x y z.

A B C D E F G H I K L M N O P Q R S T V W X Y Z.



Lord, teach me to number my dayes, that
I may apply my heart unto true Wiſdome.

A. a. a. B. b. b. C. c. c. D. d. d. E. e. e.
F. f. f. G. g. g. H. h. h. I. i. ij. K. k. k.
L. l. l. M. m. m. N. n. n. O. o. oo. P. p. pp.
Q. q. q. R. r. r. S. s. s. T. t. tt. U. v. u.
W. W. W. Y. Y. Y. y. y. y. z. z. z. C. C. ck.



They must be active, Studious, temp'rate, wise.
Who hope to make this curious Art their prize.